(c) Various steps have been taken to moderate the monetary impact of the large foreign exchange reserves. These were as follows :—

(i) phasing out automatic monetisation of the budget deficit over time;

(ii) undertaking open market operation in terms of sale of Government securities.

(iii) increasing the cash reserves ratio for banks;

(iv) altering interest rates on non-Resident Indian deposit schemes so as to align them with international interest rate structure;

(v) closer monitoring of inflows under Euro issues and larger retention of foreign exchange earnings abroad and their use for imports of capital goods.

जीवन बीमा निगम द्वारा ऋण दिया जाना

2041. **श्री ईश दत्त यादव :**

चौधरी हरमोहन सिंह :

क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) जीवन बीमा निगम द्वारा गत दो वर्षों के दौरान "अपना घर बनाओ" योजना के अंतर्गत कितना ऋण दिया गया है ;

(ख) इस योजना से कितने परिवार लाभान्वित हुए हैं ; और

(ग) सरकार द्वारा इस योजना का विस्तार करने के लिए और क्या-क्या कदम उठाए गये हैं ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एम० वी० चन्द्रशेखर मूर्ति) : (क) से (ग) सूचना एकत्रित की जा रही है और सभापटल पर रख दी जाएगी ।

Facilities for Round the Clock Custom Clearance

2042. SHRI SURESH KALMADI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have modified the facility of round the clock customs clearance to exporters in the four major ports and airports;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor and what will be the modified working hours; and

(c) what are the names of the major ports and airports affected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The utilisation of the facility by the exporters was studied and the analysis revealed that the facility is largely not being availed of during the night time between 2200 hours to 0800 hours. The modified working hours are 0800

(c) The modified facility is available at ports at Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Kandla, Nhava Sheva and the airports at Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Delhi and Bangalore.

Subsidiary of Tetra Pak AB

2043. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a multinational Tetra Pak AB of Sweden has applied to the Foreign Investment Promotion Board, Government of India to set up a fully owned subsidiary in India for packaging material manufacturing facility;

(b) whether Government are aware that Tetra Pak cartons presently used for packing milk, edible oil and fruit beverags are not bio-degradable and pose disposal problems;

(c) whether Government are aware that Tetra Pak company was fined millions a few years back by the European Union for indulging in unfair trade practices and restrictive trade and pricing contracts; and

(d) whether Government would consider refusing permission to Tetra Pak as we are capable of meeting our packaging requirements with indigenous technology and present installed capacity for packaging material?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY) : (a) No Sir.

(b) Laminated paper used in Tetra Pak Cartons is not Bio-degradable.

(c) National Dairy Development Board has informed that European Union found it necessary to fine Tetra Pak US $ 91 million for undermining competitors with widespread predatory pricing and restrictive contracts.

(d) Does not arise in view of answer to (a) above.

Narcotics Seized

2044. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Narcotic worth 70 crores in the international market was recovered from a shop in Madhya Pradesh as reported in the 'Pioneer' dated the 2nd November, 1994;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the said establishment was earlier raided and if so, the details of raids conducted during the last three months alongwith the details of goods seized during each raid; and

(d) the names of the persons arrested